

and troublesome weed, and states that it was collected in the island by Chamisso, who was there in 1817. Merrill (Enum. Philipp. Flow. Plants **3**: 596. 1923) gives it as common in waste places in the settled area of the Philippines, but says nothing about its weedy qualities. Grisebach (Fl. Brit. W. Ind. 355. 1861) long ago mentioned it as a troublesome weed in Jamaica. Spencer Moore, in Fawcett and Rendle's Flora of Jamaica (**7**: 166. 1936) does not refer to it as a weed, but quotes Sloane (1707) to the effect that the hard stalks and leaves were used as brooms to sweep houses.

In Java, Backer (Onkruidflora der Javasche suikerrietgronden, p. 755. 193?) states that it was first observed in 1917 in a shady kampong at Bidara tjina, just south of Meester Cornelis (near Batavia), where it was already well established, thereafter spreading to Buitenzorg (1919) and Pasoeroean (1925), thriving at both places and spreading spontaneously but at first slowly.

All the available evidence indicates that *Pseudo-elephantopus spicatus*, however interesting as an addition to the adventive flora of the United States, is a potentially injurious weed which should be extirpated if possible before it becomes too thoroughly established.

DIVISION OF PLANT EXPLORATION AND INTRODUCTION
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY, SOILS, AND AGRICULTURAL
ENGINEERING, BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

—

FLOERKEA PROSERPINACOIDES IN NOVA SCOTIA.—*Floerkea proserpinacoides*, new to the flora of Nova Scotia, was found on May 29, 1948, at Coldbrook, Kings County. The plants were growing in profusion on the wet river-meadow at the foot of a high bank close above the road-bridge, and about half a mile west of Coldbrook station. Although showing no signs of recent arrival, the species may well be of foreign origin. The material was mostly flowering, a few young fruits being seen. By the end of June the fruiting condition was predominant. The collection substantiating this report is *Erskine & Schofield* no. 2, sheets of which have been deposited at the Acadia and Gray Herbaria.

The northeastern range-limit of this species is given as being

from "w. Que. to Del." by Gray's Manual, while its easterly limit in Canada is the single station in Quebec (see Rouleau in *RHODORA* 47: 272. 1945). It may be noted that Quebec is included in the range of this species by Gray's Manual, but omitted by Victorin from his *Flore Laurentienne*. Victorin apparently overlooked the old specimen preserved at McGill University and the record of the station on Nun's Island, near Montreal, only casually mentioned by Rouleau, for the plant has been known from there for a century and a quarter. It was found there by Dr. Andrew Holmes, his collection "made in the neighborhood of Montreal as early as 1821" (Macoun, *Cat. Can. Pl. i.* pp. v, vi and 91). *Floerkea proserpinacoides* represents a family, the Limnanthaceae, not hitherto found in the Maritime Provinces.—DAVID ERSKINE AND WILFRED SCHOFIELD, Acadia University, Wolfville, N. S.

SCIRPUS verecundus, nom. nov. *S. planifolius* Muhl. *Descr. Gram.* 32 (1817), not *S. planifolius* Grimm in *Nov. Act. Nat. Cur.* iii. (1767) App. 259.

Unfortunately Grimm's *Scirpus planifolius* has not found its way into *Index Kewensis*, so that its priority over Muhlenberg's name for a wholly different species has been overlooked by students of the genus in this country. Attention to the matter, with the clear statement that *S. planifolius* Muhl. is a much later homonym, was published in 1939 by Mansfeld in *Fedde, Repert. Spec. Nov.* xlvii. 270 (1939). Mansfeld identified *S. planifolius* Grimm with *S. compressus* (L.) Pers. (1805) not Moench (1794) and called it *S. distichus* Peterm. (1844); and Hylander, in his *Nomenkl. und Systemat. Studien Nordisch. Gefässpfl.* 92 (1945) [Uppsala Universitets Årsskrift 1945: 7: 92] takes up *S. planifolius* Grimm to replace *S. compressus* (L.) Pers. The name, which was published by Grimm in 1767, with proper citations of earlier descriptions of Haller and Ruppius, cannot be used for the wholly different plant described by Muhlenberg.—M. L. FERNALD.

Volume 50, no. 598, including pages 241-252, was issued 16 October, 1948.